

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of external localization of a software product comprising:  
  
loading a base product having one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data;  
  
converting the base product to a language specific localized product during the loading of the base product using the base product and at least one language map containing language specific data, wherein the language specific data comprises string data that includes one or more placeholders for runtime generated strings; and  
  
executing the localized product in place of the base product.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein converting the base product to a language specific localized product comprises:  
  
intercepting the one or more calls to the operating system to load language specific data;  
  
retrieving language specific data from the language map based on the one or more calls to the operating system; and  
  
inserting the language specific data into the base product to produce the localized product.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data reference the language specific data in the language map.

4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the base product is language neutral.
6. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
a processor; and  
a memory coupled with ~~an~~ and readable by the processor and containing a series of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to load a base product having one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data, convert ~~the~~ base product to a language specific localized product during the loading of the base product using the base product and at least one language map containing language specific data, and execute the localized product in place of the base product, wherein the language specific data in the language map comprises string data that includes one or more placeholders for runtime generated strings.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein converting the base product to a language specific localized product comprises:  
intercepting the one or more calls to the operating system to load language specific data;  
retrieving language specific data from the language map based on the one or more calls to the operating system; and

inserting the language specific data into the base product to produce the localized product.

8. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data reference the language specific data in the language map.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the base product is language neutral.
11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium encoding a computer program of instructions for executing a computer process for external localization, said computer process comprising:  
loading a base product having one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data;  
converting the base product to a language specific localized product during the loading of the base product using the base product and at least one language map containing language specific data, wherein the language specific data comprises string data that includes one or more placeholders for runtime generated strings; and  
executing the localized product in place of the base product.
12. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein converting the base product to a localized product comprises:

intercepting the one or more calls to the operating system to load language specific data;  
retrieving language specific data from the language map based on the one or more calls to  
the operating system; and  
inserting the language specific data into the base product to produce the localized  
product.

13. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data reference the language specific data in the language map.
14. (Canceled)
15. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the base product is language neutral.
16. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a software product comprising:  
generating a base product comprising computer executable instructions including one or more calls to an operating system, ~~the one or more calls to the operating system~~  
to load language specific data; and  
generating at least one language map for storing the language specific data, wherein the language specific data in the language map comprises string data that includes one or more placeholders for runtime generated strings.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 ~~17~~, further comprising generating a translation layer, the translation layer to intercept the one or more calls to the operating system to load language specific data, retrieve language specific data from the language map based on the one or more calls to the operating system, and insert the language specific data into the base product to convert the base product to a localized product.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising distributing the translation layer as part of an operating system.
19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data reference the language specific data in the language map.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium encoding a computer program of instructions for executing a computer process for external localization, said computer program ~~process~~ comprising:  
a base product comprising computer executable instructions including one or more calls to an operating system, ~~the one or more calls to the operating system~~ to load language specific data; and  
at least one language map for storing the language specific data, wherein the language specific data in the language map comprises string data that includes one or more placeholders for runtime generated strings.

22. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, further comprising a translation layer, the translation layer to intercept the one or more calls to the operating system to load language specific data, retrieve language specific data from the language map based on the one or more calls to the operating system, and insert the language specific data into the base product to convert the base product to a localized product.
23. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the one or more calls to an operating system to load language specific data reference the language specific data in the language map.
24. (Canceled)